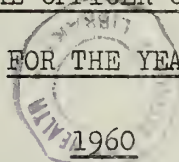



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GRANGE-over-SANDS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR





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GRANGE-over-SANDS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1960

Town Hall,
ULVERSTON.

November, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Grange-over-Sands Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical
Officer of Health for the year 1960.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)	1,884
Population - Census 1951	3,028
- Registrar General's Estimate of home population, mid 1960	2,850
Number of inhabited houses	1,160
Rateable Value	£59,042
Sum represented by a penny rate	£236

The Urban District of Grange-over-Sands is situated on the northern shore
of the estuary of the River Kent which forms part of Morecambe Bay. It is a
residential town and holiday resort.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The principal vital statistics for 1960 and for the preceding five years
are given on page two.

23 births were registered, 14 females and 9 males. Of these 1 male and
1 female were illegitimate.

Approximately 86% of deaths were in persons of 65 years of age and over.
The main causes of death were :- Diseases of the Heart and Circulation 26,
Vascular lesions of nervous system 18 and Cancer 9.

YEAR	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality		
	No. registered.	Rate per 1,000 population	No. registered.	Rate per 1,000 population	No. registered.	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	Rate per 1,000 live births
1960	23	x8.1	65	x22.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1959	14	4.9	60	21.2	1	66.7	-	-	-	-	-
1958	35	12.3	57	20.1	-	-	-	-	2	57.1	57.1
1957	31	10.8	49	17.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1956	27	9.5	54	19.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1955	24	8.4	48	16.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
average 5 years 1955-59	-	9.2	-	18.9	-	13.3	-	-	-	11.4	11.4

x Adjusted live birth rate (comparability factor 1.46) =

11.8 per 1,000.

Adjusted death rate (comparability factor 0.54) =

12.3 per 1,000.

The table below shows the comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales and this District.

The rates quoted are for 1,000 population in all cases.

<u>YEAR.</u>	England and Wales		Grange-over-Sands Urban District.	
	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
1960	17.1	11.5	11.8	12.3
1959	16.5	11.6	7.2	11.2
1958	16.4	11.7	18.0	10.8
1957	16.1	11.5	15.8	9.1
1956	15.6	11.7	14.0	10.3

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :-

J.L. WILD. M.A., M.B., B.Chir.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other Appointments Held :-

Medical Officer of Health -
Dalton-in-Furness Urban District,
Ulverston Urban District, North
Lonsdale Rural District.

Divisional Medical Officer -
Health Division No. 1 -
Lancashire County Council.

Public Health Inspector :-

J. SPENCER, M.A.P.H.I., Certificate
R.S.I., and S.I.E.J.B. Inspector
of Meat and Other Foods.

Other Appointments Held :-

Assistant Surveyor.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The domestic water supply for the Grange Urban District is supplied by the Urban District Council and is from uncultivated moorland gathering grounds which are grazed by sheep. The gathering grounds are situated at Chapel House Plantation in the Parish of Staveley in the North Lonsdale Rural District supplying the reservoir at Simpson Ground, and a further area at Newton-in-Cartmel where two smaller reservoirs and treatment works are situated.

The total capacity of the reservoirs is 72 million gallons. Water is piped from Simpson Ground reservoir and can be fed either into the reservoirs at Newton or directly to the filtration plant.

The treatment plant consists of eight pressure filters with the necessary chemical tanks etc. Chemicals added to assist filtration are Sulphate of alumina and Sodium Carbonate. After filtration, lime is added, the water is chlorinated and passes to covered storage tanks having a capacity of 140,000 gallons, thence to the trunk mains for distribution.

The filtering medium is washed and cleansed daily and the pH of the water is checked twice per day.

There are three service reservoirs in Grange, at Windermere Road (150,000 gallons), Hampsfell (200,000 gallons) and Wartbarrow (200,000 gallons) which serve as reservoirs in case of interruption in trunk mains and also for equalising demand in the mains.

There are no private water supplies in the area and all houses have a piped water supply.

Six samples of water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination and received satisfactory reports. Six samples of the water were submitted for chemical analysis, five being taken from distribution points on the system and one being of raw water. All six were reported to be satisfactory.

RAINFALL.

January	5.39	May	2.85	September	4.98
February	3.15	June	2.38	October	3.42
March	1.32	July	5.86	November	7.73
April	3.34	August	4.02	December	4.57

<u>Year.</u>	<u>First</u> <u>Quarter</u>	<u>Second</u> <u>Quarter</u>	<u>Third</u> <u>Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth</u> <u>Quarter</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1946	12.97	8.72	20.12	16.83	58.64
1947	9.89	12.42	9.87	11.74	43.92
1948	16.86	13.69	14.95	13.39	58.89
1949	9.29	9.18	9.86	21.02	48.55
1950	11.83	8.63	21.04	12.87	54.37
1951	15.86	5.87	13.72	12.86	48.31
1952	10.38	9.58	8.14	10.24	38.34
1953	5.97	8.94	13.50	13.74	42.74
1954	13.17	11.13	20.85	23.50	68.65
1955	6.31	11.75	8.49	12.76	39.31
1956	6.61	4.83	17.25	9.74	38.43
1957	12.22	5.69	14.55	12.78	45.24
1958	12.40	10.10	14.43	12.06	48.99
1959	7.42	10.11	5.08	18.95	41.56
1960	9.86	8.57	14.86	15.72	49.01
15 years average -	10.74	9.28	13.78	13.88	48.33

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Urban District is sewered in the main on a combined system, although some of the houses have rainwater drains leading to soakaways within their own curtilage.

Disposal is by settlement tanks and screening followed by discharge into the tidal estuary.

Most of the district is sewered, apart from isolated areas which are dependent on septic tanks. These areas are briefly, the higher parts of Grange Fell, the Slack area of Windermere Road, Lyndene Estate, a number of farms, and Holme Island.

Sewage from the lower end of Grange adjacent to the railway station is collected in a well situated in the Ornamental Gardens where dual pumps are installed to lift the sewage into the main outfall sewer. This sewer runs the full length of the Promenade from the station to the main outfall tanks, where sewage is screened and discharged into the estuary. The higher parts of the town (excluding the Kents Bank and Cart Lane areas) discharge into the tributary sewers which ultimately join the main sewer on the Promenade.

In the Kents Bank area the main outfall sewer passes under the railway adjacent to Kents Bank Station and then along the seaward side of the railway embankment to a settling tank (situated at Kirkhead End), the outfall from which discharges into the estuary.

The Cart Lane area drains into a settlement tank and then discharges via a tidal door into the estuary.

Regular emptying of the settlement tanks kept the system working reasonably well.

All the houses in the Urban District are provided with fresh water closets.

Fourteen properties were connected to the main sewer during the year.

The developer of a site for eighteen houses laid the main sewers and connected these to the Public Sewer nearby, but none of the houses had been commenced by the end of the year.

The question of an alternative means of sewage disposal for the Lyndene area of Grange was deferred until the finalisation of the Town Map.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The refuse collection service was re-organised at the latter end of the year with the object of achieving a reduction in the collection cycle. The special type vehicle with a staff of two men is now employed solely on the collection of refuse from domestic properties. The collections from shops, cafes, large hotels etc., being undertaken by the general purpose vehicle employing another two men and operating two days per week.

This method has resulted in the collection time being reduced from fourteen days to twelve days for houses and to seven days for the large hotels, shops, etc.

The whole of the refuse is dealt with at the Council's incinerator, and non-combustible materials, screenings etc., are tipped adjacent to the incinerator. The tip was maintained in a tidy condition.

All the houses in the district have moveable dustbins which are renewable by the owners or the occupiers of the property.

Scrap, baled tins and other materials were sold during the year, receipts for these amounting to £320.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Details regarding the inspection of meat, shops, vehicles and places where food is prepared are given in the report of the Public Health Inspector, as also are the particulars of registration under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1952.

HOUSING.

A fairly high standard of housing exists in Grange. The older houses, many of which have been converted into flats, are in the main, stone structures, whilst the more modern type are of brick and/or stone.

In the Grange Fell area, where there is a large proportion of smaller and older dwellings, the properties are in a reasonable state of repair, the majority being owner/occupied. The principle defect to this type of house is the shortage of yard space but most have gardens of considerable size thereby reducing the density.

No conditions of overcrowding were discovered during the year.

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats and Maisonettes</u>
Number of new houses erected during the year:-		
(1) By the Local Authority	-	-
(2) By other Local Authorities	-	-
(3) By other bodies or persons	10	4
		(by conversion)

1. Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	66
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	110
(c) No. of dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	54
(2) Total No. of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit	-

2. Houses Demolished during the year :-

Nil

3. Unfit Houses Closed :-

Nil

4. Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied :-

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
(1) After informal action by Local Authority	41	-
(2) After formal notice under -		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	-	-

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957) :- Nil

6. Houses in Clearance Areas Purchased by Agreement :- Nil

7. Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 - Improvement Grants, etc.

	<u>No. of Schemes.</u>	<u>No. of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected.</u>
Action taken during the year :-		
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	2	2
(b) Approved by Local Authority	1	1
(c) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-
(e) Work completed	-	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	-	-

8. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 - Standard Grants :-

Numerous enquiries have been received and advice given of this scheme but no applications have yet been received.

CAMPING SITES.

Three sites were used in the district for camping purposes, one only being for caravans, the other two being used for Scouts, Guides, etc.

No licences were issued by the Local Authority. The one caravan site was completely cleared shortly after the coming into operation of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Routine visits to the sites were carried out and informal action taken when necessary.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

DISEASE	Number of cases in year -					1960		
	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	Number of Cases	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Measles	17	5	6	50	6	31	-	-
Whooping Cough	38	1	19	7	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para typhoid fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	57	6	46	58	6	32	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

No cases of tuberculosis were reported in the Grange Urban District during the year under review.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council administer their duties under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, with the use of two part-time rodent operators, one of whom is hired from the North Lonsdale Rural District Council by mutual agreement as and when occasion demands.

No major infestations by either rats or mice were found during the year, 134 inspections of all types of properties being carried out, resulting in 119 treatments.

Test baiting of sewers was carried out, ten per cent of all manholes on the system being tested but all gave "no takes".

Spot checks on other manholes on the sewerage system adjacent to infested properties were carried out but these too resulted in "no takes".

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

Most of the factories in Grange are allied to other businesses, such as shops, bakehouses and workshops operating machines, and are therefore legally designated as factories. Most of these were visited and informal action necessary on a few occasions for want of cleanliness or unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation.

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of -		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	2	-	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	22	18	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	-	-	-	-

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Thirty-seven inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1950 and ten offices under the Public Health Act, 1936. Only informal action was necessary where notices were not displayed and cleanliness not up to standard.

SCHOOLS.

There are 3 schools within the district. All have a satisfactory mains water supply and sanitary accommodation, and are provided with dustbins. All are drained to the public sewer.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades operating in Grange.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951.

No action was taken under the above Acts during the year.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

The Council own an open-air bathing pool situated on the Promenade and having a capacity of 450,000 gallons. The pool is open for use from May to September and in addition to general public use is used by the schools in neighbouring areas for swimming instruction.

Sea water is drawn off at suitable tides into settling and balancing tanks and thence into the pool and during use the water is filtered and chlorinated continuously, three eight feet diameter "Royles" pressure filters being used. The "turnover period" of the water is ten to twelve hours but during the year tenders were accepted for the renewal of the filtration plant plus alterations to the filter house to accommodate the new plant. Towards the end of the year work was commenced and the plant was to be in use for the 1961 season. The "turnover period" of the new plant was to be $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Samples of the water taken for bacteriological examination have shown it to be satisfactory.

The report of the Public Health Inspector is appended.

In conclusion, I thank the Members of the Health Committee and the Officers of the Grange-over-Sands Urban District Council, in particular the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, for their courtesy and help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J.L. WILD.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.
ON THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Only tuberculin tested milk is sold in the district and no heat treated milk is sold. There were fourteen persons retailing milk in Grange, eight operating from premises within the North Lonsdale Rural District, two from dairy farms and four from shops within the district.

Twenty-two samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination and eight gave unsatisfactory methylene blue test results. The facts were reported to the County Milk Production Officer and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

None of the samples contained tubercle bacilli and five gave positive Brucellosis Ring test results. Of these five, two were later reported positive Culture test and Biological test and the facts were passed to the North Lonsdale Rural District Council in whose areas the herds were situated.

ICE CREAM.

Twenty-four premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and of these five are registered for manufacture by the cold mix method. At only one, however, is ice cream manufactured, all the remainder sell ice cream obtained from reputable firms. Samples taken conformed to the methylene blue test.

MEAT INSPECTION.

One private slaughterhouse is licensed and used by one butcher.

Ante-mortem inspection of all animals is carried out whenever possible and post-mortem inspection of all animals is carried out.

It is pleasing to note that the general standard of health of animals entering this slaughterhouse has been maintained at a fairly high level.

The other butchers in the town buy their meat from wholesale suppliers.

Statistics are given as to number slaughtered and number of diseased animals:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	169	Nil	14	644	105
Number inspected	169	Nil	14	644	105
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	31	Nil	Nil	4	7
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.	18.34%	Nil	Nil	.77%	10.47%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	.95%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

UN SOUND FOOD.

During the year, the following articles of food were surrendered for destruction after examination :-

	<u>Quantity Examined.</u>	<u>Quantity Condemned.</u>
Tinned meat	180 lbs.	140½ lbs.
Tinned soup	12 lbs.	1 lb.
Sausages	50 lbs.	46 lbs.
Bacon	20 lbs.	8 lbs.
Lobsters	14 lbs.	14 lbs.
Fish	15½ lbs.	15½ lbs.

FOOD PREMISES.

Routine inspections of food premises have been carried out. Formal action under the Food and Drugs Act was not necessary, any defects being remedied when attention was drawn to them.

The majority of faults found occurred in food handling practice.

One hotel kitchen was completely re-modernised and re-designed.

Numerous posters, leaflets, etc., dealing with food hygiene or food handling were distributed to shop-keepers, bakehouses, etc.

The co-operation of traders generally in the attempt to improve still further the standard of food hygiene is commendable.

I have the honour to be,

Yours obediently,

J. SPENCER.

Public Health Inspector.

